

C. C. C.  
ARCHIVE COPY  
NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM OFFICE

Poverty  
Tuberculosis  
Health

THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR  
IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR

# Poverty and Tuberculosis

The Home Hospital Method  
of Treatment

ILLUSTRATED

The Home Hospital is an experiment in the combined home and hospital treatment of families made dependent by tuberculosis. It was established on March 18, 1912, in the East River Homes, 78th Street and John Jay Park, by the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

This pamphlet illustrates the methods used and some of the results secured during the first two years. A detailed report of the experiment may be had by writing or applying to the Association.

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING  
THE CONDITION OF THE POOR  
105 EAST 22<sup>nd</sup> STREET, NEW YORK CITY

## THE PROBLEM

Eighteen of the Twenty-six Members of These Four Families are Tuberculous.

The Bread-winner in Every Home is a Patient.



I

Four members tuberculous: father and three children.



II

Father permanently incapacitated by injury. Mother (bread-winner) and three children tuberculous.



III

Father and three children have the disease.



IV

Every member of this family, including the father, is tuberculous. Source of infection: wife's mother.



## WHERE WE FIND THEM LIVING



I

Inside bedroom in a patient's former home. All air must come through the kitchen. (Where "Sunny Jim," see page 6, was born.)



II

A three-room home where a family of five contracted tuberculosis. Two inside bedrooms indirectly ventilated from an air shaft kitchen.



III

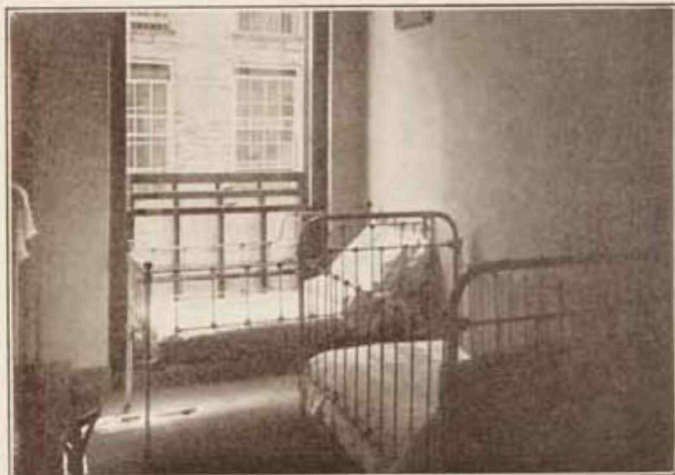
A Mott Street hovel that reeked with vermin and disease. The home of a family of five patients. (See page 3, Plate IV, for family's home in Home Hospital.)

## WHERE WE CARE FOR THEM



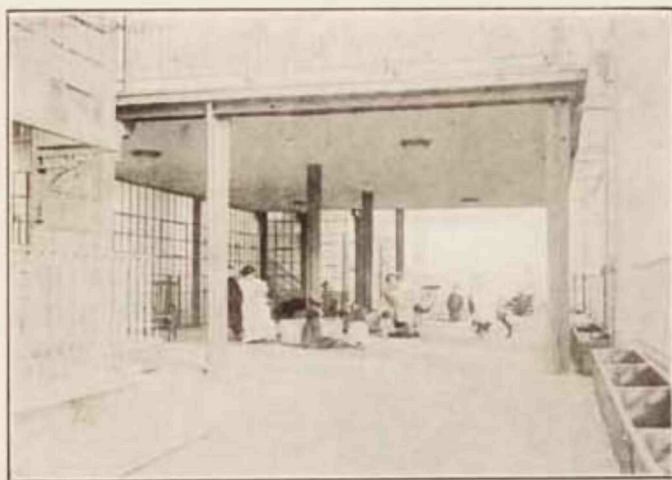
I

The home of the Home Hospital.



II

An apartment bedroom in the Home Hospital.



III

Children's playground on the roof.

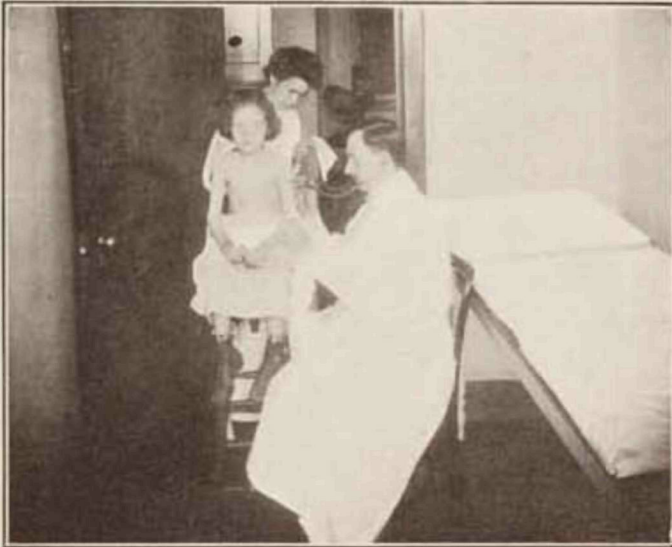


IV

An apartment kitchen in the Home Hospital. (See page 2, Plate III, for former home of this family)

# HOW WE CARE FOR THEM

## Hospital Treatment



I

### *In the Clinic*

Hospital physician examining child of patient as a precautionary measure.



II

Von Pirquet test to learn whether baby is tuberculous.

## Home Treatment



III

### *Caring for Baby*

Nurse teaching a mother while housewife does the heavy work.



IV

Tuberculosis precautions. Instructing a mother how to care for food and how to sterilize dishes after meals to prevent the spread of infection to well members of the family.



# HOW WE CARE FOR THEM

## Fresh Air Treatment



I

A bed patient on her apartment balcony



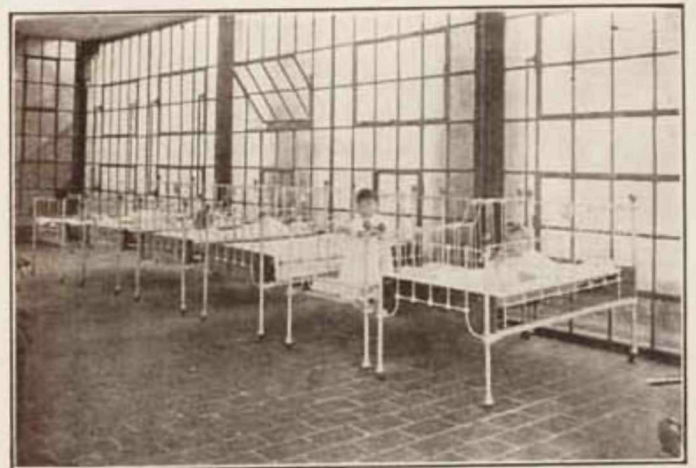
II

Rest cure in the winter on the roof of the Home Hospital.



III

Open-air school on the roof for children of families in Home Hospital.



IV

Where the babies play and sleep on the roof.

# HOME HOSPITAL RESULTS

## The Progress of "Sunny Jim"



I

"Sunny Jim" and his mother, March, 1912, just before admission. Weight 7 pounds, 4 1-2 pounds under normal.



II

"Sunny Jim" and his mother, April, 1912, a month after admission. Weight 8 1-2 pounds.



III

"Sunny Jim" March, 1913, a year after admission. Weight 23 1-2 pounds.



## From Whines to Smiles in Twelve Weeks

### "Chubby" Kathleen, "Sunny Jim's" Rival



I

Kathleen's parents and sisters, all tuberculous. (See page 2, Plate II, for family's tenement home.)



II

As "Chubby" looked when admitted to the Hospital.  
Weight 7 pounds, 10 pounds under normal.



III

"Chubby" twelve weeks later. Weight 14 pounds,  
an average gain of nearly 10 ounces a week.

## Method of Treatment and Advantages

As its name implies, one of the purposes of the Home Hospital is to preserve the home. Therefore, so far as possible, each family is permitted and helped to live a normal home life. The medical *regime* adopted is that of the best sanatoria and hospitals, including regular physical examinations, weekly sputum tests, adequate segregation of the more advanced cases, open windows and outdoor life upon balcony, the roof, or in the park near by, absolute rest for those who need it, and a graduated amount of exercise for appropriate cases, and constant medical oversight, nursing care and home inspection. A fresh-air school for the children is held on the roof, and instruction is regularly given to adults in cooking, sewing, nursing, care and feeding of infants, personal cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation.

The patients, encouraged to work on tasks proportioned to their increasing strength, are thus prepared for a return to normal activity and to complete resumption of family responsibility. When the family is about to be discharged, the securing of employment and a sanitary home completes the care provided.

The advantages claimed for this method are—(1) the directness of its attack upon the home conditions as a crucial, underlying cause of tuberculosis and its consequent poverty, (2) the readiness with which unsuspected, incipient cases may be detected and checked, (3) the exceptional opportunity it affords for adequate control of the disease and family, (4) its avoidance of the opposition, deterrent influence, worry and other hardships inevitably occasioned by the separation of the sick from the well members of the family, (5) its preservation of the integrity of the home, (6) its care of classes of patients who either could not or would not go to institutions, (7) its fostering an increase of earning capacity in the wage-earner and a gradual return to normal conditions, (8) its provision against a return of either the patient or family to the inimical environment where the disease was contracted and is likely to recur, and (9) in its care not only for the physical but for the economic and social ills not merely of the patient but of the entire family.

# New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor

105 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, JR.	<i>President</i>
ROBERT SHAW MINTURN	<i>Treasurer</i>
FRANKLIN B. KIRKBRIDE	<i>Secretary</i>
BAILEY B. BURRITT	<i>General Director</i>

## HOME HOSPITAL

SEVENTY-EIGHTH STREET AND JOHN JAY PARK

### *Committee*

LINSLEY R. WILLIAMS, M.D., *Chairman*

EUGENE DELANO	JOHN A. KINGSBURY
ERNESTO G. FABBRI	ACOSTA NICHOLS
HARRY PELHAM ROBBINS	PERCY R. PYNE
DR. JAMES ALEXANDER MILLER	MRS. WILLIAM K. VANDERBILT
MRS. WALTER B. JAMES	

### *Staff*

HELEN KNIGHT SMITH	<i>Superintendent</i>
LINSLEY R. WILLIAMS, M.D.	<i>Medical Director</i>
EDWARD C. BRENNER, M.D.	<i>Attending Physician</i>
JAMES H. HUTCHENS	<i>Business Manager</i>



